GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1504
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Capacity of Cold Storage
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Will the Minister of FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has prepared any action plan to increase the capacity of cold storage in the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and
(c) the details of amount allocated during the last five years for the purpose, State-wise?

Answer

(a) to (c) In order to arrest post-harvest losses of horticulture & non-horticulture produce and to provide remunerative prices to farmers, Ministry of Food Processing Industries is implementing the Central Sector Scheme of Integrated Cold Chain and Value Addition Infrastructure to provide integrated cold chain and preservation infrastructure facilities from the farm gate to the market. Under the scheme, the Ministry provides financial assistance in the form of grant-in-aid @ 35% for general areas and @ 50% for North East States, Himalayan States, ITDP areas and Islands for storage and transport infrastructure and @ 50% and 75%, respectively for value addition and processing infrastructure subject to a maximum grant-in-aid of Rs.10 crore per project for setting up integrated cold chain projects in the country. The scheme is primarily private sector driven and proposals under this scheme are invited through Expression of Interest (EOI).

The Ministry is assisting 236 cold chain projects. These include 103 cold chain projects which have been recently sanctioned in the month of March/April, 2017.

Further, Department of Agriculture, Cooperation & Farmers Welfare is implementing Mission for Integrated Development of Horticulture (MIDH) for holistic development of horticulture which also provides assistance for creation of post harvest infrastructure including establishment of Cold Storages. The scheme is implemented by States, based on Annual Action Plan. States have been advised to use 35% − 40% of their annual budget for creation of Post-harvest management infrastructure including cold storages. The component is project based & demand driven.

Loans to food & agro-based processing units and Cold Chain have been classified under Agriculture activities for Priority Sector Lending (PSL) as per the revised RBI Guidelines issued on 23/04/2015. Various fiscal incentives are also being provided to promote creation of cold chain infrastructure.

The scheme for Integrated Cold Chain and Value Addition Infrastructure is demand driven and not region specific. Therefore, State wise funds are not allocated under the scheme. However, details of year wise funds allocated and released by Ministry under the scheme for Integrated Cold Chain and Value Addition Infrastructure and under MIDH in the last five years are at Annexure-I & II, respectively.